

The President's Daily Brief

22 October 1971

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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| PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS | 50X1 |
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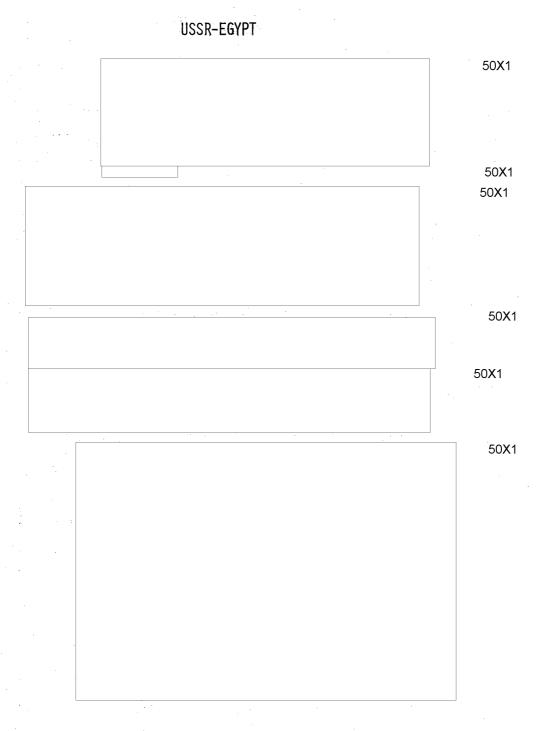
Burmese Communists are organizing a caravan to carry raw opium to the Thailand-Burma-Laos border area. $(Page\ 4)$

| INDIA-PAKISTAN | | | | | | |
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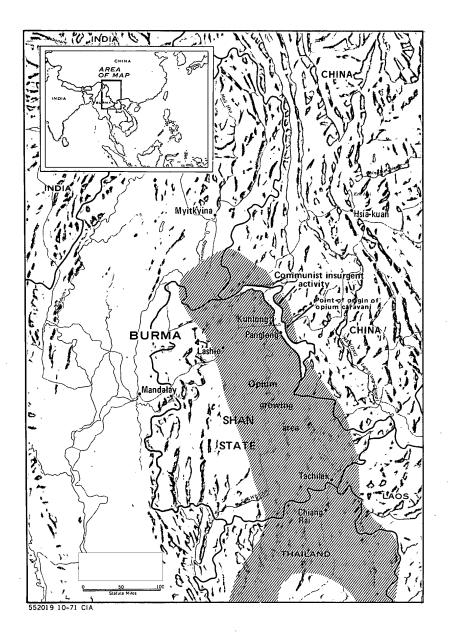
Indian charges of Pakistani provocation reached a new high yesterday when Foreign Ministry officials told US Embassy officers that Pakistani armor and infantry at "more than company level" crossed briefly into Indian-held Kashmir on 14 or 15 October. At the same time, according to press reports, an unnamed Foreign Ministry official has stated that unless there is a political solution that will enable the safe return of the refugees, "it is for India to judge what action is necessary."

An assessment by Consul General Spivack in Dacca notes that insurgency in East Pakistan has increased in intensity over the past three months, but concludes that the Mukti Bahini are still unable to challenge the army in urban areas. In some parts of the province the insurgents move almost at will and have established a civil administration. They are increasingly well armed and able to carry out such operations as sabotaging ships and bridges. Ambushes have sometimes inflicted significant casualties on the Razakars, a locally recruited militia, and to a much lesser extent on the army.

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NOTE

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Burma: the Burmese Communists have organized a caravan to carry about 10,000 pounds of raw opium to transshipment points in the Thailand-Burma-Laos border area this week. Since last spring, the Communist insurgents have taken over much of the poppy-growing area along the China border that had been previously under the control of ethnic Shan groups involved in the opium trade. The Communists, who heretofore have not been directly implicated in the opium traffic, may now be entering the narcotics business to gain a new source of funds for their insurgent activities.

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